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1
             IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
               FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
 3
   IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION ° MDL NO. 2020
                                ° Master File No.
 4
                                 2:07-CV-3541 (FSH)
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
                    ORAL DEPOSITION OF
10
                    FRANK G. TONREY, M.D.
11
                    February 22nd, 2010
        **************
12
13
14
15
16
          ORAL DEPOSITION OF FRANK G. TONREY, M.D.,
   produced as a witness at the instance of the Aetna,
17
   and duly sworn, was taken in the above-styled and
18
   numbered cause on the 22nd of February, 2010, from
19
20
    9:12 a.m. to 5:13 p.m., before Daniel J. Skur,
21
   Notary Public and Certified Shorthand Reporter in
22
   and for the State of Texas, reported by stenographic
23
   means, at the offices of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher,
2.4
   2100 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1100, Dallas, Texas,
25
   pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
```

```
10
 1
                      Frank G. Tonrey, M.D.
 2
                      PROCEEDINGS
 3
                     FRANK G. TONREY, M.D.,
 4
         having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
 5
                            (9:12 a.m.)
 6
                           EXAMINATION
 7
     BY MR. DOREN:
 8
          0.
                  Good morning, sir.
 9
          Α.
                  Morning.
                  Would you please state your full name
10
          0.
     for the record?
11
12
          Α.
                  Frank G. Tonrey.
13
          0.
                  And what does the G stand for?
                  Gerald.
14
          Α.
                  And what is your home address?
15
          Q.
16
          Α.
17
                  And are you currently employed?
18
          Ο.
19
          Α.
                  Yes.
2.0
                  And where do you work?
          0.
2.1
                  I work out of various facilities in the
          Α.
22
     hospitals in the city of Dallas and Plano.
23
          Q.
                  And do you work as an anesthesiologist
     at those facilities?
24
25
                  I do.
          Α.
```

Frank G. Tonrey, M.D.

1

2

3

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15

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19

2.0

2.1

2.2

23

24

- A. I believe that's correct, yeah.
- Q. And while you believe that your billed charges are reasonable, do you agree that there are some doctors who submit billed charges above a reasonable level?
 - A. There may be. I don't know for a fact.
- Q. And as a class representative in this litigation, do you think that doctors who bill above an accurate usual, customary, and reasonable rate should receive their billed charges?
- A. I believe they should receive the lesser of the billed charges or an adequate UCR, usual and customary rate.
- Q. And do you agree that for out-of-network benefits to be available to plan members, there has to be some constraint on a physician's ability to receive coverage for any amount they choose to bill?
- A. Yes, that's generally the market forces will take care of that.
- Q. And similarly, recognizing that coverage and -- strike that.
- And it's because of those market forces that there is a usual, customary, and reasonable rate that can be determined, correct?

147 1 Frank G. Tonrey, M.D. 2 Α. Yes. 3 0. And it is at that level that a physician should be reimbursed, correct? 4 5 Yes, after just one submission of a 6 claim, not four appeals. That's... 7 Because if a physician could simply bill 0. 8 any amount --9 Α. Correct. -- and receive that amount in insurance 10 0. 11 coverage, insurers could not continue to provide 12 out-of-network benefits, correct? 13 Α. Yes. 14 0. And you agree that, in general, 15 out-of-network benefits are an attribute that many plan members find to be important, correct? 16 17 Α. They pay higher premiums for it, yes. Do you know how much higher? 18 0. 19 Α. I think it depends on the plan. Do you disagree that 125 percent of 2.0 0. 2.1 local Medicare reimbursement reflects usual, 2.2 customary, and reasonable rates? 23 Α. Yes. 24 Why do you disagree with that? Q. 25 Medicare rates are -- for my specialty, Α.

305 1 Frank G. Tonrey, M.D. 2 your friend? Q. Ιs 3 Α. I don't remember what her situation is. 4 I think she might have been a very seriously ill 5 lady who had a lot of surgery. And my question right now --6 0. 7 Α. She's not my friend. 8 0. And my question is have you ever written 9 off coinsurance obligations for your friends? Not to my knowledge. I don't send them 10 Α. a balance bill when they have a discrepancy between 11 12 what the insurance company will reimburse and I 13 charge. And when you say you don't send them a 14 Q. "balance bill," do you mean you don't send them a 15 bill? 16 17 Α. I don't send them a bill unless it's --18 yes. 19 0. So you'll take what the insurance 2.0 company pays? 2.1 Α. Right. 2.2 But then as a courtesy or a favor to 0. 23 your friends, you won't bill them for any amount 24 beyond that? 25 Α. Correct.

```
330
 1
     COUNTY OF DALLAS
 2
     STATE
            OF
                TEXAS
                        )
 3
            I, Daniel J. Skur, Certified Shorthand
    Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of
     Texas, do hereby certify that the facts as stated by
 4
    me in the caption hereto are true; that there came
    before me the aforementioned named person, who was
 5
    by me duly sworn to testify the truth concerning the
    matters in controversy in this cause; and that the
 6
     examination was reduced to writing by computer
 7
    transcription under my supervision; that the
     deposition is a true record of the testimony given
 8
    by the witness.
 9
                     I further certify that I am neither
     attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed
    by, any of the parties to the action in which this
10
     deposition is taken, and further that I am not a
11
     relative or employee of any attorney or counsel
     employed by the parties hereto, or financially
12
     interested in the action.
13
                     Given under my hand and seal of
     office on this, the 26th day of February, A.D.,
     2010.
14
15
16
17
18
                      Daniel J. Skur
                      Notary Public, State of Texas
19
                      My Commission Expires 7/7/2010
20
21
22
23
2.4
25
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1
2
               UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
               FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
3
     -----X
   DARLERY FRANCO, et al.,
4
                      Plaintiffs,
5
             - against - CASE NO. 07-CV-6039(SRC)(PS)
6
   CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE
7
   INSURANCE CO., et al.,
8
           Defendants.
9
   In Re:
10
   AETNA UCR LITIGATION
   MDL NO. 2020
11
   Master File No.
12
   2:07-CV-3541
    ----X
13
                 TRANSCRIPT OF
          DEPOSITION OF LEONARD A. NELSON, ESQ.
14
15
16
            TRANSCRIPT of the stenographic
17
    notes of the proceedings in the
    above-entitled matter, as taken by and
18
19
    before TAB PREWETT, a Registered
20
    Professional Reporter, a Certified
21
    Shorthand Reporter, a Certified LiveNote
22
    Reporter, and Notary Public, held at the
2.3
    offices of WHATLEY DRAKE & KALLAS, LLC,
24
    1540 Broadway, New York, New York, on
25
    Tuesday, June 22, 2010, commencing at 11:45 a.m.
```

```
9
 1
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 2
     LEONARD A. NELSON,
 3
     doing business at the
 4
    America Medical Association,
 5
     515 North State Street,
     Chicago, Illinois
 6
                        60654,
 7
    having been sworn by the notary public to
     testify to the truth, testified as follows:
 8
    DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DOREN:
 9
                 Would you please state your
10
     full name for the record.
11
12
           Α
                 Leonard Arthur Nelson.
13
                 And what is your home address?
           Q
14
           Α
15
16
           Q
                 Where are you currently
17
     employed?
                 At the American Medical
18
           Α
    Association, 515 North State Street,
19
     Chicago, Illinois
2.0
                        60654.
2.1
                 And when did you first go to
2.2
    work for the AMA?
23
           Α
                 In January of 1998.
24
                 What is your current position?
           Q
25
                 Senior attorney IV, that's
           Α
```

```
48
 1
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 2
     to 1999?
                 So that I am -- so that I
 3
           Α
 4
     understand the question, you are asking
 5
     going back to before 1999, what was the
 6
     knowledge of the American Medical
 7
     Association prior to 1999 as to how
     insurers determined out-of-network
 8
 9
     payments?
10
           Q
                 Yes.
           Α
                 I don't know.
11
12
                 MR. AXELROD: Let me also
13
          belatedly object to outside of the
14
          scope.
15
                 MR. DOREN: We could debate
16
          that, but as long as --
17
                 MR. AXELROD: I am not
          instructing him not to answer.
18
19
          scope objection is on the record.
20
                 When did the AMA first learn
2.1
     that the PHCS database was organized by
22
     geo zip?
23
           Α
                 Either 1999 or 2000.
24
                 Did the AMA know that,
25
     historically, some insurers used
```

```
49
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 1
 2
     compilations of their own claim data to
 3
     determine out-of-network reimbursement
 4
     levels?
 5
                 I think we do know that.
           Α
 6
                 When did the AMA learn that?
           0
 7
           Α
                 I don't know when we learned
     that.
 8
 9
                 Has the AMA known that
           Q
     historically?
10
11
                 MR. AXELROD: Objection to the
12
          form.
13
                 I mean, what you say, it just
     seems to me understood generally within the
14
15
     industry. And I just couldn't give you a
16
     year. When you say "historically," as
17
     counsel says, it's a little vague, so I
     have trouble anticipating it.
18
19
                 Has that been something that
20
     has been understood generally in the
2.1
     industry throughout your tenure with the
2.2
     AMA?
23
                 MR. AXELROD: Objection to the
24
          form.
25
           Α
                 I think so, yes.
```

```
50
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 1
 2
                 Is that something that you
 3
     understood to be generally understood in
     the industry prior to your joining the AMA?
 4
 5
                 MR. AXELROD:
                                Same objection.
                 I don't know.
 6
           Α
 7
                 Which reminds me, we should
           Q
 8
     review your work history.
 9
                 Could you please summarize for
    me your formal education?
10
                 Yes, I could.
11
           Α
12
                 Please proceed.
           0
13
           Α
                 Okay.
                         I graduated from
     Dartmouth College in 1969 with a degree in
14
15
               That was my area of -- that was
    physics.
16
    my major. I then received a master's
17
     degree in physics from the University of
     Illinois. I received a jurisprudence --
18
19
     doctor of jurisprudence, a JD degree from
    Harvard Law School in 1974. That was my
2.0
2.1
     formal education.
2.2
                 Can you please summarize your
           Q
23
     full-time employment since graduating from
24
     law school?
25
           Α
                 Yes, I can. I started at
```

65 Leonard A. Nelson 1 2 Was the AMA aware of the 3 existence of any aggregated database of billed charge data that was being used by 4 5 insurers to set reimbursement levels for out-of-network care prior to 1999? 6 7 A No. 8 Did the AMA ever object to 9 insurers using their own claim data to set reimbursement levels for out-of-network 10 claims? 11 12 Α Are you talking about other 13 than filing a lawsuit? Which lawsuit are you referring 14 Q 15 to? The United Health Care suit. 16 Α 17 Other than filing the United Q Health Care suit -- well, strike that. 18 19 Prior to filing the United Health Care suit, did the AMA ever object 2.0 2.1 to insurers using their own claim data to 2.2 set reimbursement levels for out-of-network 23 claims? 24 Not that I know of. And you 25 understand I would be in a position to

```
66
 1
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 2
     know.
 3
           Q
                 In July 2002, in "In Re:
 4
    Managed Care," the AMA sued Aetna for
 5
     conspiring in the use of Ingenix to
     diminish payments, correct?
 6
 7
           A
                 No.
                      I don't know where you are
 8
     coming from. I think you are just wrong.
 9
                 (Exhibit No. 485, Document on
          the caption for MDL number 1334,
10
          second page bearing the caption,
11
          "Provider Plaintiffs' Second Amended
12
13
          Consolidated Class Action Complaint,"
          is marked by the reporter for
14
15
          identification.)
                 Mr. Nelson, I would like to
16
17
     show you what has been marked as
     Exhibit 485. It is a document on the
18
19
     caption for MDL number 1334. And on the
20
     second page it bears the caption:
2.1
                 "Provider Plaintiffs' Second
2.2
    Amended Consolidated Class Action
23
     Complaint?"
24
                 Thank you.
           Α
25
                 And first of all, of course, I
           Q
```

```
141
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 1
     transaction that govern, not what the AMA
 2
 3
     would like to see in that contract that
     governs.
 4
 5
                 And when you talk about
     external law, you mean the legal mandates
 6
 7
     for reimbursement that might apply on some
 8
     circumstances?
 9
                 I don't know how to answer that
           I mean, there are all sort of laws
10
     that may apply in these situations.
11
                                            There
12
     is common law.
                     There are statutes.
                                            Ι
13
     don't know how to answer that.
14
           Q
                 Right. Directing your
15
     attention to page 299, the next topic in
16
     your preparation is why UCR is needed and
17
     who uses UCR.
                 Do you have that in front of
18
19
     you?
2.0
           A
                 I do.
2.1
                 And in your opinion, is UCR
22
     needed to protect third-party payors
23
     against price gougers?
24
                 Does "you" mean Leonard Nelson?
25
           Q
                 Yes.
```

```
142
                  Leonard A. Nelson
 1
 2
                 Yes, I think so.
 3
           Q
                 And how do you, Leonard Nelson,
 4
     define "price gougers"?
 5
                 A provider of medical services
     who submits a price that is a wholly out of
 6
 7
     line with any reasonable way of determining
 8
     a fair price for that service.
 9
                 And directing your attention --
     sorry -- strike that.
10
                 And in your opinion,
11
12
     coverage-based -- I'm sorry --
13
     out-of-network coverage based on usual,
14
     customary, and reasonable rates is an
15
     appropriate way of third-payor payors to
16
     protect themselves against price gougers?
17
           Α
                 I think so.
                 And directing your attention to
18
19
     page 333300 --
2.0
           A
                 Yes.
2.1
                  -- this is entitled:
           Q
2.2
                  "Typical UCR contractual
23
     requirements."
24
                 Correct?
25
                 That is.
           Α
```

144 Leonard A. Nelson 1 2 And in your opinion, is use of 3 the 80th percentile of the usual fees 4 currently charged by physicians of similar 5 training and experience for the same service within the same specific and 6 7 limited geographical area an appropriate 8 point within a charge data distribution to 9 set out-of-network reimbursement? 10 MR. AXELROD: Objection to the 11 form. 12 Α Yes. 13 And you also put in parentheses 0 that the 80th percentile is typically used, 14 15 correct? 16 Α That is correct. 17 And so, for example, an Q 18 employer plan sponsor may request that a 19 different percentile be used, correct? 2.0 Not only request, but we have 2.1 to say and agree. I mean, we are not --2.2 the contract -- no, you know, the fact that 23 the employer may request it is not 24 sufficient. 25 The fact that that's in the

258 1 2 CERTIFICATE 3 I, TAB PREWETT, A Registered Professional Reporter, Notary Public, 4 5 Certified LiveNote Reporter, and Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify that 6 7 prior to the commencement of the 8 examination LEONARD A. NELSON was sworn by 9 the notary public to testify the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. 10 11 DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a 12 true and accurate transcript of the 13 testimony as taken stenographically by and 14 before me at the time, place and on the 15 date hereinbefore set forth. I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor 16 17 employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of 18 the parties to this action, and that I am 19 neither a relative nor employee of such 20 attorney or counsel, and that I am not 21 financially interested in the action. 2.2 Notary Public My Commission expires February 9, 2014 2.3 Dated: June 25, 2010 2.4 25

```
1
 2
    IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 3
    FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
   MDL NO. 220
 4
 5
   MASTER FILE NO. 2-07-CV-3541
 6
 7
 8
    IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION
 9
10
11
12
                  TRANSCRIPT OF
13
           DEPOSITION OF MICHELLE COOPER
14
15
            TRANSCRIPT of the stenographic
16
    notes of the proceedings in the
17
    above-entitled matter, as taken by and
   before TAB PREWETT, a Registered
18
19
    Professional Reporter, a Certified
20
    Shorthand Reporter, a Certified LiveNote
21
    Reporter, and Notary Public, held at the
22
    Offices of WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER P.A.,
23
    90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, New
24
    Jersey, on Tuesday, January 19, 2010,
25
    commencing at 10:20 a.m.
```

```
10
1
                  Michelle Cooper
2
                PROCEEDINGS
3
   MICHELLE
                    COOPER,
   residing at 1 Bruce Path,
4
5
   Short Hills, New Jersey 07078,
   having been sworn by the notary public to
6
7
   testify to the truth, testified as follows:
   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DOREN:
8
9
                Could you please state your
          Q
   full name for the record?
10
11
          Α
                Sure, it's Michelle Cooper.
12
                And while I know you just did
          0
13
   it off the record, could you also please
   state your home address?
14
15
                Sure, it's
          Α
16
17
          Q
                And what is your date of birth?
18
          Α
19
          Q
                Are you currently employed?
2.0
          Α
                Yes.
2.1
                Where do you work?
          Q
2.2
                I am self-employed with
          Α
23
   Coliberate, C-o-l-i-b-e-r-a-t-e, Systems.
24
                And how long have -- I'm sorry.
25
   Coliberate Systems is the name of your
```

```
49
 1
                  Michelle Cooper
 2
    for that service. Correct?
 3
          Α
                Correct.
                And do you agree that your
 4
 5
    health insurer should not be required to
 6
   pay whatever rate the doctor sets as
    what -- however it is they value their
 8
    services?
 9
          Α
                Sure.
10
                They should only have to pay,
    you know, what in broader analysis is a
11
    usual, customary, and reasonable rate?
12
13
          Α
                Depends upon how you are going
    to define "broader."
14
15
                I understand. In other words
16
    an accurately calculated, usual, customary,
17
    and reasonable rate?
                Which is not present the way
18
19
    they are calculating.
2.0
                I assure you, if I am trying to
21
    discuss your allegations about what is or
22
    what is not appropriate in current UCR
23
    allegations, I will be direct with you.
24
          Α
                Okay.
25
          Q
                My question is that:
```

```
50
 1
                   Michelle Cooper
 2
                You agree that a health insurer
 3
    should not be bound by whatever rate a
    provider selects, correct?
 4
 5
          Α
                Correct.
 6
          0
                And why not?
 7
          Α
                It's not reasonable.
 8
          Q
                 It just a unilateral number
 9
    potentially, correct?
10
          Α
                Correct.
                And the health plan that you
11
    have enrolled in contemplates not the full
12
13
   billed charges will be paid, but rather a
    reasonable and customary amount will be
14
15
    paid, correct?
16
          Α
                Correct.
17
                And that's what you expected
          Q
    when you enrolled in it?
18
19
          Α
                Reasonable and customary, yes.
2.0
          0
                And that's what you relied upon
2.1
    when you enrolled in the plan?
2.2
          Α
                Correct.
23
                You did not rely upon receiving
24
    whatever rate the provider unilaterally
25
    selects?
```

303 1 2 CERTIFICATE 3 I, TAB PREWETT, A Registered Professional Reporter, Notary Public, 4 5 Certified LiveNote Reporter, and Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify that 6 7 prior to the commencement of the 8 examination MICHELLE COOPER was sworn by 9 the notary public to testify the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. 10 11 DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a 12 true and accurate transcript of the 13 testimony as taken stenographically by and 14 before me at the time, place and on the 15 date hereinbefore set forth. I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor 16 employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of 17 18 the parties to this action, and that I am 19 neither a relative nor employee of such 20 attorney or counsel, and that I am not 21 financially interested in the action. 2.2 Notary Public My Commission expires February 9, 2014 2.3 January 27, 2010 Dated: 2.4 25

```
1
                UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                   DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
2
3
   IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION MDL. No. 2020
4
   This Document Relates To:
5
                                      Master Case No.
                                      2:07-3541 (FSH) (PS)
   ALL CASES
6
7
8
9
             30(B)(6) DEPOSITION OF AETNA BY:
10
                    JAMES D. CROSS, M.D.
11
                   DATE: MARCH 23, 2010
12
                          HELD AT:
13
                   SHIPMAN & GOODWIN, LLP
                   ONE CONSTITUTION PLAZA
14
                   HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
15
16
17
18
19
   Reporter: Sandra V. Semevolos, RMR, CRR, LSR #74
20
21
22
23
24
25 Job No. NJ247694
```

7 1 (Deposition commenced at 10:05 a.m.) 2 MR. SIGLER: We will read and sign. 3 JAMES D. CROSS, M.D., of 4 5 , being first duly sworn, 6 deposes and states as follows: DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. AXELROD: 8 Q. Good morning. Would you state your name for the record, please? 9 James Cross. 10 Α. And what is your home address? 11 Q. 12 Α. 13 14 What is your work address? Q. 15 151 Farmington Avenue, in Hartford, Α. Connecticut. 16 17 Q. So you live in Fort Lauderdale, but you work in Farmington, Connecticut; is that correct? 18 19 Α. Well, I have -- I'm a work-at-home officially. 2.0 2.1 Ο. I see. But I have a visitor's office here in 22 23 Hartford, and I use Hartford as my business location 24 so that the mail and everything goes to Hartford. 25 But otherwise, your office is in your home? Q.

80 Well, I wouldn't characterize it as whether 1 Α. 2 it's legitimate or not legitimate. I think it's a 3 methodology that's used to help support when there isn't enough occurrences within a geographic region. 4 5 And based on the references, the methodology that's used to do that derived data, that it's an actuarily, 6 I suppose, or statistically appropriate way to present 8 the data. BY MR. AXELROD: 9 Well, I understand that you wouldn't 10 characterize it that way, but I'm asking you to. 11 asking you how you would characterize, one way or the 12 13 other, the use of derived data. 14 MR. SIGLER: Same objection. 15 I think it's a part of the product, and it's 16 an acceptable component of the product for 17 presentation of how the data comes to us from a use of the data as a reasonable and customary source. 18 BY MR. AXELROD: 19 2.0 Q. Acceptable to whom? 21 MR. SIGLER: Same objection. 22 Α. Acceptable to Aetna. 23 BY MR. AXELROD:

any study of derived data and decided that the use of

Do you know whether someone at Aetna made

24

25

800-227-8440 973-410-4040

- 1 derived data was acceptable to Aetna?
 - A. Not that I know of.

2

3

4

5

6

2.0

- Q. So your testimony is that because you think that the use of derived data had been acceptable to Aetna, then that's the basis for your testimony that it's legitimate?
- 7 MR. SIGLER: Objection,
- 8 | mischaracterizes his testimony and form.
- 9 Α. Well, according to the benefit plan, we are 10 responsible for determining the reasonable and 11 customary charge, so we are actually the ones who have 12 to decide what the legitimate source or the reasonable 13 source or the appropriate source of that reasonable 14 and customary data is, so we purchased that source of 15 reasonable and customary data from Ingenix, and we are 16 aware of their assurances of what the product is about 17 and how it works and what it represents. And in purchasing that, I think we feel that that is an 18 19 appropriate source for reasonable and customary data.
 - Q. So --
- 21 A. They --
- 22 Q. Sorry, go ahead.
- A. And the fact that there is derived data
 means that in those circumstances which are unusual, I
 would say that there is a methodology to do derived

- 1 is reasonable, is understandable, is comparable with
- 2 other charges that are submitted for various
- 3 | procedures, that they have some relativity to each
- 4 other, that any ordinary person would think that given
- 5 | whatever standards there are about what the relative
- 6 | values of a particular procedure are and what the
- 7 | local charges are of a particular procedure, that
- 8 | those amounts are reasonable, rational and
- 9 understandable and not out of the ordinary.
- 10 Q. Fair enough. And how does derived data lead
- 11 to a fee that is comparable with other procedures or
- 12 | with local charges?
- MR. SIGLER: Objection, form and
- 14 foundation.
- 15 A. Honestly, I don't know the specifics of how
- 16 | the derived data are obtained. I can't testify to how
- 17 | that's done.
- 18 BY MR. AXELROD:
- 19 Q. So what is the basis, if at all, for your
- 20 | testimony that when Aetna uses derived data, it's
- 21 | making a reasonable reimbursement determination?
- MR. SIGLER: Same objection.
- 23 A. Other than what I've already stated, that
- 24 | it's part of the product, and we purchased the
- 25 product, and we are comfortable with what the product

85 is as it's been purchased and presented. 1 BY MR. AXELROD: 3 Q. What is the definition, in your mind, of "customary"? 4 5 MR. SIGLER: Objection, calls for a 6 legal conclusion and form. 7 Again, I think it's what I stated about Α. reasonable. The benefit language says reasonable and customary, usual and customary. The idea that it's 9 common within a range that one would find acceptable 10 and appropriate and sort of customary within that --11 in that geography and sort of something that is, you 12 know, sort of generally accepted. 13 BY MR. AXELROD: 14 15 Do derived data take into account 16 geographical differences? 17 Α. I honestly don't know for sure. My understanding was that it's a broader geographic 18 19 consideration. Other than that, I don't know. 20 Well, you testified when I asked you about 21 the meaning of "customary" that it took into account 22 certain geographical differences or at least

24 So how would derived data, if at all, be used to take into account geography, which you 25

geography. That was your testimony.

100 1 General. 2 So still today you believe that the Ingenix Ο. 3 database is still a legitimate tool for making 4 reimbursement determinations? 5 MR. SIGLER: Objection, calls for a legal conclusion. Objection, lack of foundation, form 6 and scope. 8 Α. We continue to use the Ingenix database as 9 our source for usual and customary data, and we 10 consider it an appropriate source, as we have always 11 thought. 12 BY MR. AXELROD: 13 Q. Why did you direct that The Aetna Fee Profile be terminated? 14 15 It's my belief that if you are going to use 16 charge data, the more charge data you have available 17 to the database, the more legitimate or more accurate the calculations are in terms of a percentile. 18 19 Aetna's membership in a particular geography may be 20 minimal. We may have a significant membership in 21 certain geographic areas and not so much in others.

So the whole point of having a third party collect the charge data and pool it makes the pool of data, the end number, so to speak, larger, so that there is more likely to be true charge data, nine and

22

23

24

greater, in each geographic region if it's pooled information.

So if you put Blue Cross/Blue Shield data and the five largest insurance companies' data and another 100 smaller companies' data into a pool, and you derive a database that that's how the legitimate charge data or the real charge data are accumulated, then you get a, in my mind, a more accurate, a better reflection of that pool of charge data.

So when we use an Aetna specific profile, it's more limited in terms of what our geographic experience or data would show. So in some instances, because we have a fairly large membership, and we have a significant membership in certain geographies, you know, the pool of data might be perfectly legitimate, or perfectly reasonable to use, but it's more limited than what a third-party pool of information would have. So I think it's more important for us to use the larger database for charge data than just our own internal data.

It's rare that we don't have to -- it's rare that we don't find the data in the Ingenix database.

And for those unusual circumstances where there is no data, I think the better process for us is to do the comparisons and do the, sort of a manual look at

2.0

102 1 what's being submitted and what's being billed and 2 what we can compare it to than it is to just use the 3 data that's within Aetna itself. So the progression of how we've been moving, 4 5 in terms of what data we use, is to use the Ingenix 6 database. When you nonetheless made reimbursement Q. determinations using The Aetna Fee Profile, did you do so where there were less than nine data points? 9 10 MR. SIGLER: Objection, lack of foundation. 11 12 You know, I don't know the detail on The Α. 13 Aetna Fee Profile as to what the number would need to 14 be to use it, but again, where we felt comfortable 15 with that data in terms of its frequency, we did use 16 it. I would not be able to tell you the detail of 17 that. BY MR. AXELROD: 18 19 When you said feel comfortable with using 20 it, what was the basis for Aetna feeling comfortable 21 with using The Aetna Fee Profile data for a particular 22 reimbursement?

MR. SIGLER: Objection, lack of foundation.

23

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I would just be speculating if I told you Α.

306 1 CERTIFICATE 2 STATE OF CONNECTICUT 3 I, SANDRA V. SEMEVOLOS, a Registered Merit Reporter/Notary Public within and for the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that I reported the deposition of JAMES D. CROSS, M.D. on MARCH 23, 2010, at the offices of SHIPMAN & GOODWIN, LLP, ONE 5 CONSTITUTION PLAZA, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT. 6 I further certify that the above-named deponent was by me first duly sworn to testify to the 7 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth concerning his/her knowledge in the matter of the case IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION, This Document Relates To: ALL CASES, now pending in the UNITED STATES 9 DISTRICT COURT, for the DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY. 10 I further certify that the within testimony 11 was taken by me stenographically and reduced to typewritten form under my direction by means of COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSCRIPTION; and I further certify 12 that said deposition is a true record of the testimony given by said witness. 13 14 I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to 15 the action in which this deposition was taken; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, 16 nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action. 17 18 WITNESS my hand and seal this 1st day of 19 April, 2010. 20 21 Sandra V. Semevolos, RMR/CRR 22 Notary Public My Commission Expires: September 30, 2010 23 License Registration Number: 74 2.4 25

Exhibit 28

| | Page 1 |
|----|--|
| 1 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT |
| | DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| | IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION MDL. No. 2020 |
| 4 | |
| 5 | This Transcript Relates To: Master Case No. |
| | ALL CASES 2:07-3541(FSH)(PS) |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | DEPOSITION OF RODERICK LEE MARTIN |
| 10 | DATE: JULY 1, 2010 |
| 11 | HELD AT: |
| 12 | MURTHA CULLINA, LLP |
| | CITYPLACE I, 185 ASYLUM STREET |
| 13 | HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
| 17 | |
| 18 | Reporter: Sandra V. Semevolos, RMR, CRR, LSR #74 |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | Tola No. NTOCE 400 |
| 25 | Job No. NJ265408 |
| | |

Page 6 (Deposition commenced at 10:04 a.m.) 1 2. RODERICK LEE MARTIN of 3 being first duly sworn, deposes and states 4 as follows: 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 6 Q. Good morning. 8 Α. Good morning. 9 My name is Joseph Guglielmo. I'm an Ο. 10 attorney with the law firm of Scott & Scott. I 11 represent one of the Plaintiffs in the action today. 12 Can you please state your full name and 13 address for the record? Roderick Lee Martin. I live at 14 Α. 15 Mr. Martin, I'm going to be asking you some 16 17 questions today. If you don't understand a question 18 that I ask, please indicate, otherwise I'll assume you 19 understand the questions. 20 I need you to provide verbal responses to 21 the questions that I ask so that the court reporter 2.2 can take down the information. Likewise, with respect to my questions, I'd just appreciate if you could let 23 me finish the question before you answer, and I'll 24 also oblige and let you finish your response. 25

Page 100 recollection as to what the output was or the results 1 2. were. BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 3 And do you know whether you ever provided 4 Ο. that report to the extent it was run to Ms. Jensen? 5 6 MS. WALSH: Objection. 7 I don't know. Α. MR. GUGLIELMO: Mr. Martin, I'm going 8 9 to mark as Exhibit 7 a document bearing Bates Numbers 10 AET 00905155 through 159. 11 (Exhibit 7, Document bearing Bates 12 Numbers AET 00905155 through AET 13 00905159, marked for identification.) 14 MR. GUGLIELMO: For the record, the top 15 of the first page of this document is an e-mail from Deborah Justo to Beth Lilick, Roderick Martin dated 16 17 March 1, 2005. (Pause.) 18 BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 19 20 Mr. Martin, have you had a chance to take a Q. 21 look at Exhibit 7? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 With respect to the subject matter of the Ο. 24 e-mail string, re R&C savings, do you have an understanding of what is being discussed in this 25

800-227-8440 973-410-4040

Page 101

e-mail string?

2.

2.2

MS. WALSH: Objection.

A. Yes.

BY MR. GUGLIELMO:

- Q. Can you tell me what your understanding is?
- A. There was, as mentioned in the third e-mail from the bottom, second to last page, the claim department cost containment report, that was a report that was in place, had been in place, as noted here, for many, many years that was attempting to capture what we referred to as R&C savings, meaning reductions from billed charges to R&C payment amounts.

There was, based on this request for proposal, information for a proposal, something from Hewitt. I don't recall specifically what it related to, but they were providing this information and basically we caught wind of it. There was some questioning about the data, the results, the year-to-year change, and through the chain, I guess, it got to me, and I got involved because I was running also some R&C savings reports, I believe, at the time, again, attempting to capture the R&C savings. But the issue here is that the reports that had been in existence for many years, apparently there was no owner, and they basically became outdated and were

Page 102 providing what we thought was inaccurate data, 1 2. commingling savings from a few different policies in place as opposed to it just being R&C related. 3 Is it your understanding in or about the 4 Ο. 2005 time frame that you were creating R&C savings 5 6 reports? 7 Objection. MS. WALSH: I was creating a savings report that 8 Α. 9 incorporated savings from a number of policies, 10 including R&C. 11 BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 12 And so specifically, what categories of Ο. 13 savings were you including in the savings report that you were creating in or about 2005? 14 15 MS. WALSH: Objection. 16 Generally it was savings related to, as 17 discussed earlier, reimbursement policies and clinical 18 policies. BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 19 20 And would R&C savings be categorized as a Ο. 21 reimbursement policy? 2.2 MS. WALSH: Objection. 23 Α. Loosely, yes. BY MR. GUGLIELMO: 24 Could it also be categorized as a clinical 25 Q.

800-227-8440 973-410-4040

Page 144

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

I, SANDRA V. SEMEVOLOS, a Registered Merit Reporter/Notary Public within and for the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that I reported the deposition of RODERICK LEE MARTIN on JULY 1, 2010, at the offices of MURTHA CULLINA, LLP, CITYPLACE I, 185 ASYLUM STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

6

7

8

9

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I further certify that the above-named deponent was by me first duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth concerning his/her knowledge in the matter of the case IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION, This Transcript Relates To: ALL CASES, now pending in the UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, for the DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY.

10

11

12

I further certify that the within testimony was taken by me stenographically and reduced to typewritten form under my direction by means of COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSCRIPTION; and I further certify that said deposition is a true record of the testimony given by said witness.

13 14

15

16

I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

17 18

 $\,$ WITNESS my hand and seal this 8th day of July, 2010.

20

21

19

Sandra V. Semevolos, RMR/CRR

22

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: September 30, 2010 License Registration Number: 74

23

24

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Exhibit 29

Case 2:07-cv-03541-KSH-CLW Document 1123-8 Filed 01/03/18 Page 45 of 55 PageID: 61626

1 2 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY 3 MDL NO. 220 MASTER FILE NO. 2-07-CV-3541 4 5 IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION 6 7 8 9 10 CONFIDENTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF DEPOSITION OF SHARON SMITH 11 12 13 TRANSCRIPT of the stenographic 14 notes of the proceedings in the 15 above-entitled matter, as taken by and 16 before TAB PREWETT, a Registered 17 Professional Reporter, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, a Certified LiveNote 18 19 Reporter, and Notary Public, held at the 20 Offices of WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER P.A., 21 90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, New 22 Jersey, on Thursday, January 21, 2010, 23 commencing at 10:20 a.m. 24 25

Case 2:07-cv-03541-KSH-CLW Document 1123-8 Filed 01/03/18 Page 46 of 55 PageID: 61627 5

```
1
                      Sharon Smith
 2
               PROCEEDINGS
 3
      SHARON
                     S M I T H,
 4
      residing at
 5
 6
      having been sworn by the notary public to
 7
      testify to the truth, testified as follows:
 8
      DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. EVANS:
 9
                  Can you please state your full
10
      name for the record?
11
                  Sharon Lee Smith.
            Α
12
                  What is your current address?
            Q
13
            A
14
15
                  Could you provide us with your
            Q
16
      date of birth, please?
17
            Α
18
            Q
                  Have you ever had your
      deposition taken before?
19
2.0
            A
                  No.
21
                  I would like to just explain
22
      some of the procedures that we follow.
23
      First of all, you have been sworn under
2.4
      oath.
25
                  Do you understand that?
```

Elisa Dreier Reporting Corp. (212) 557-5558 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Case 2:07-cv-03541-KSH-CLW Document 1123-8 Filed 01/03/18 Page 47 of 55 PageID: 61628 81

```
1
                     Sharon Smith
 2
      specialist, so I have no one to compare his
 3
      prices to.
 4
                  Does Dr. break down
 5
      for you what you owe as a co-pay and the
 6
      deductible or coinsurance for each
7
      procedure?
 8
                 Well, what I see is from Aetna,
            A
9
      when they say, you know, how much they will
10
      pay and then they won't pay.
11
                       I know we owe
      him thousands and thousands of dollars.
12
13
      And he understands that my husband is -- we
14
      are on social security. And, you know, I
15
      try to pay as much as I can if we get
16
      extra.
17
                  But Dr. is a very
18
      kind and compassionate and understanding
19
      doctor that cares very much about his
2.0
      patients. And he works with us on it.
21
                  Does he send you bills for the
22
      amounts that he says you owe?
23
           Α
                 No, I don't recall receiving a
2.4
      bill.
25
            Q
                 And does he make attempts to
```

Elisa Dreier Reporting Corp. (212) 557-5558 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

```
1
                      Sharon Smith
 2
      collect the amounts he says he's owed for
 3
      instance, through collection agencies?
                  Never. That is out of
 4
            A
 5
      character for him.
 6
                 Besides Dr.
 7
      there any other out-of-network providers
      for whose service you are seeking to get
 8
      paid in this litigation?
9
10
            Α
                  I don't have any other
      out-of-network doctors, no.
11
12
                  MR. EVANS: I am going to take
13
           a brief break and see what else we are
14
           going to want to ask you and probably
15
           wrap it up quickly after that.
16
                   (There was a discussion and
           break off the record.)
17
                   (Exhibit No. Aetna 50, Second
18
           Joint Consolidated Amended Class
19
2.0
           Action Complaint and Demand for Jury
           Trial, is marked by the reporter for
21
22
           identification.)
23
                  We can go back on the record.
            0
2.4
                  Ms. Smith, I am passing to you
25
      what has been marked as Aetna Exhibit 50.
```

Elisa Dreier Reporting Corp. (212) 557-5558 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

| 1 | |
|----|--|
| 2 | CERTIFICATE |
| 3 | I, TAB PREWETT, A Registered |
| 4 | Professional Reporter, Notary Public, |
| 5 | Certified LiveNote Reporter, and Certified |
| 6 | Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify that |
| 7 | prior to the commencement of the |
| 8 | examination SHARON SMITH was sworn by the |
| 9 | notary public to testify the truth, the |
| 10 | whole truth and nothing but the truth. I |
| 11 | DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a |
| 12 | true and accurate transcript of the |
| 13 | testimony as taken stenographically by and |
| 14 | before me at the time, place and on the |
| 15 | date hereinbefore set forth. I DO FURTHER |
| 16 | CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor |
| 17 | employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of |
| 18 | the parties to this action, and that I am |
| 19 | neither a relative nor employee of such |
| 20 | attorney or counsel, and that I am not |
| 21 | financially interested in the action. |
| 22 | Notary Public |
| 23 | My Commission expires February 9, 2014 Dated: January 30, 2010 |
| 24 | Dated. Gamuary 30, 2010 |
| | |

25

Elisa Dreier Reporting Corp. (212) 557-5588 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Exhibit 30

Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY MDL NO. 220 MASTER FILE NO. 2-07-CV-3541

IN RE: AETNA UCR LITIGATION

TRANSCRIPT OF DEPOSITION OF DARLERY FRANCO

notes of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter, as taken by and before TAB PREWETT, a Registered Professional Reporter, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, a Certified LiveNote Reporter, and Notary Public, held at the Offices of WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER P.A., 90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, New Jersey, on Friday, January 22, 2010, commencing at 10:20 a.m.

```
Page 6
1
                    Darlery Franco
              PROCEEDINGS
2
 3
    DARLERY FRANCO,
 4
    residing at
 5
 6
7
    having been sworn by the notary public to
8
     testify to the truth, testified as follows:
     DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DOREN:
9
10
                 Good morning, Ms. Franco.
                Good morning.
11
           Α
12
                 Could you please state your
           Q
13
     complete name for the record?
14
                 Darlery Franco, Dar-ledy or
           Α
15
    Darlery Franco.
16
                 Your full name is Darlery --
           Q
17
           Α
                 It's just a Spanish versus
18
    English pronunciation.
19
                 Rolling the R, got it. Thank
20
          What's your home address?
     you.
21
           Α
                 It's
22
23
                 What is your date of birth?
           Q
24
           Α
25
                 And as we were introduced off
```

Page 102 1 Darlery Franco 2 the day of surgery? 3 Α I don't recall. You don't know whether you had 4 0 5 or not? No, I don't. 6 Α 7 Have you met Dr. Valauri again 0 since your surgeries? 9 Α No. So the only time you would have 10 11 seen him would have almost literally been 12 in the surgical theater? 13 Α Yes, the hospital. 14 Has Dr. Valauri sent any bills 0 15 to you? 16 I think they have been part of 17 Dr. Rose's bills. 18 So to the extent Dr. Valauri 0 has billed any amounts to you, it would 19 have been included in Dr. Rose's bills? 20 21 Α I think so. Yes. 22 And if it wasn't included in 23 Dr. Rose's bills, then Dr. Valauri has not 24 billed you any amounts? 25 MR. MARCY: Objection to the

Page 103 1 Darlery Franco 2 You can answer the question. form. 3 0 Let me re-ask the question. Other than what might be 4 5 included in Dr. Rose's invoices, are you aware of any other bills being sent to you 6 7 by Dr. Valauri? No, I'm not. Α 9 Have you paid Dr. Valauri any 0 10 money related to either/or any surgery in 11 which he assisted Dr. Rose? 12 Α I never met with his office 13 directly. Any additional payments I made, 14 I made through Dr. Rose's offices; and I'm 15 not sure how they were applied. 16 Whether Dr. Rose shared some of 0 17 that money with Dr. Valauri. 18 Correct. Α But, again, unless he did --19 0 20 you haven't made any payments to 21 Dr. Valauri, correct? 22 Α Correct. Ms. Franco, I would like to 23 0 24 show you what has been marked as Aetna 25 Exhibit 120. It's a single-page document

```
Page 133
 1
 2
                    CERTIFICATE
 3
             I, TAB PREWETT, A Registered
 4
     Professional Reporter, Notary Public,
 5
     Certified LiveNote Reporter, and Certified
     Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify that
 6
 7
     prior to the commencement of the
 8
     examination DARLERY FRANCO was sworn by the
 9
     notary public to testify the truth, the
10
     whole truth and nothing but the truth.
11
     DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a
     true and accurate transcript of the
12
     testimony as taken stenographically by and
13
14
     before me at the time, place and on the
15
     date hereinbefore set forth.
                                    I DO FURTHER
16
     CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor
17
     employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of
18
     the parties to this action, and that I am
19
     neither a relative nor employee of such
20
     attorney or counsel, and that I am not
2.1
     financially interested in the action.
22
     Notary Public
23
     My Commission expires February 9, 2014
            January 31, 2010
     Dated:
24
25
```